

The Acton Free Press

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First centennial show at high school Tuesday

Fair board ladies will don trailing skirts, ruffled waists and plumed chapeaux on the weekend when they sell tickets in town to Acton's first centennial show. Portraits of the Past will feature costumes which bring our nation's history to life at the high school next Tuesday evening.

The costumes for the show arrive Monday from the Ontario centennial planning branch, so the members of the board are rummaging in their own attics to parallel some of the gowns that will be spotlighted in the only show of its kind ever held here.

After the costumes arrive, a speedy dress rehearsal will be held. While a list of sizes preceded the actual shipment of the recreated gowns, a full list of possible models will be on hand to determine whose shape will give her the role of Madame Champlain, Laura Secord, Adelaide Hoodless, the wife of a prime minister or even good old Queen Victoria. Youngest

model required is a young girl about eight years of age.

Costumes, scripts and music all come from the centennial planning branch of the government. It's expected programs like this, and the costumes themselves, will spark even more interest in the country's big birthday party next year. Patterns are to be available for making costumes like the ones that will be shown in the program here.

Mrs. Jim McCulloch will be commentator Tuesday and Mrs. Norm Turner will play the piano. There will be 39 costumes adapted from old pictures, sketches and engravings.

Two people come with the show, the costume co-ordinator, Mrs. Thelma Morrow, and stage manager Bruce Elder. Mr. Elder will be in charge of special effects.

This complete packaged fashion show includes models in homespun and buckskin, to laces and velvets.



—Staff Photo

Equalized assessment up to \$306,235,508

Halton's 1966 tax levies to its seven member municipalities will be based on a total taxable county assessment total of \$306,235,508, members of Halton County Council learned Tuesday as they approved the annual equalization of assessment by-law.

Acton's share will be 2.37 per cent of the total.

The taxable assessment this year represents \$19,286,427 or 6.27 per cent increase over last year. (Assessments in 1965 are counted for 1966 tax year).

In presenting his annual report, Halton's new assessor Robert Beach pointed out the 1965 population of Halton was 142,109, an increase of over 6,550

over the previous year for a 4.83 per cent population gain.

He praised local assessors for their work, and pointed out that in his spot checks on local assessments they were found to be within a range of 30 to 34 per cent of the 1965 market value. "A range this close points out the excellent work being accomplished by the Assessment Departments in the county's municipalities," he noted.

The assessment figures on which 1966 taxation for county purposes will be levied is as follows:

Acton, \$7,252,411 assessment for 2.37 per cent; Burlington, \$123,349,740 assessment for 40.28 per cent; Georgetown, \$16,207,923 assessment for 5.29 per cent; Milton, \$9,851,928 assessment for 3.22 per cent; Oakville, \$134,021,943 assessment for 43.76 per cent; Esquimes, \$11,035,880 assessment for 3.60 per cent; Nassagaweya, \$4,515,683 assessment for 1.48 per cent.

Total — \$306,235,508 assessment.

Open tenders for library on June 29

Tenders for Acton's proposed centennial library will be opened at a special meeting of Acton council next Wednesday evening, June 29. It is hoped by keen supporters of the library project that some citizens will attend the meeting to show their concern in rectifying the inadequacies of the present library accommodation.

Since the construction of the attractive new building by the school creek is not heavy, house contractors have been contacted to tender on the plans. The proposed site has been approved and soil tests indicate building there would be no problem.

The library project was chosen over several others when representatives first discussed how Acton would mark Canada's birthday.

Several sets of specifications have been provided by the town and architect for prospective tenderers.

Several charges on weekend

On the weekend Acton O.P.P. Detachment had several cases of minors drinking. Four Milton youths were charged as well as an Acton man.

Friday night an Acton man was arrested for providing liquor to minors and Saturday the four Milton youths were charged for consuming while under age. Constable Mervin Harness laid the Milton charges and constable Bruce McArthur the Acton one.

On Sunday, Constable Nick Farion laid a charge against an out-of-town motorist for having liquor in other than his residence.

—The Sunshine school had a closing program Monday and closing picnic Tuesday.



—Staff Photo

SPARKS FLEW TUESDAY NIGHT when Ray McConkey from the Safety Supply Co. demonstrated how to free a person trapped in a wrecked automobile for the benefit of Halton Mutual Aid Firefighters. He first cut a hole in the roof and then sawed the complete top off during the demonstration.

CATTLE MOVED OVER in line to listen to the panel discussion at the Chamber of Commerce rural-urban night Tuesday at Mel McCulloch's farm. Probably what caught their sudden attention was the suggestion farmers' demands

might receive more government attention if the farmers refused to produce! Panelists are 4-H club leader Nino Braida, district dairy farmer Walter Linham, ag. rep. Henry Stanley and moderator Norman Braida.

Typical 4-H meeting shown guests at Chamber's rural-urban program

About 50 from farms and town spent a pleasant evening together at the farm home of Mr. and Mrs. Mel McCulloch during the annual rural-urban night sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. A typical 4-H program proved interesting for the visiting C. of C. members, Rotarians and other guests Tuesday.

A class of Guernsey cattle was judged by the 20 boys and girls of the local club and the visitors were all given score sheets too. Agricultural representative Henry Stanley lectured on a living mooring model

and then the visitors and students scrutinized four and placed them. (The visitors went mainly by friendly looks, nice coloring and curly tails, and didn't do too well.)

Mr. McCulloch, who with his wife is just back from a trip to the British Isles and Europe with a farm group, showed the guests his farm machinery. Very interesting was a giant harvester which he spun around the field to demonstrate its manoeuvrability.

The agricultural representative gave an informative lecture on soils in the drive shed, set up with chairs and lights.

Then a panel discussion took place, with moderator Norman Braida and panelists 4-H club leader Nino Braida, area dairy farmer Walter Linham and ag. rep. Henry Stanley. The current tractor parades, farmers' unions and increasing costs with out-of-proportion profits proved interesting subjects to all the hearers. One conclusion

expressed was "the farmers will be pressed into violence unless the government does something."

"Farmers are not starving by any means, but they are on the low end of the scale and not getting their fair share of the consumer's dollar," said Mr. Linham.

Asked what it would cost to set up a 100-acre mixed farm, Mr. Stanley thought it would take \$20,000 at least — about the cost of the farm again.

"Can we keep enough people on the land to supply our needs?" some one asked. "Yes," a panelist replied, "if prices are right we can improve our efficiency."

Chamber president Rev. A. H. McKenzie expressed thanks.

Hamburgs were grilled over coals and served by Harold Manes and Paul Nielsen. Tedford Reid presided at the coffee urn. It was a fine night and the group lingered outside chatting before leaving.

High school promotion lists will be published in next week's issue of the Free Press. As usual, arrangements have been made with the high school to obtain the names of successful students in grades 9 to 12. Grade 13 results are not available till August.

H.S. promotions

Brookville expansion proposed to council

A proposal for the addition of six classrooms, a school library, a home economics room and an industrial arts room to Brookville Public School was presented to Nassagaweya Township Council on Monday night by members of the Township School Board.

Tentative approval of the \$283,300 project has already been received from the Halton County Consultative Committee. School Board chairman Horace Blyth said \$174,500 of the cost would qualify for grants from the Department. Size of the addition is 14,400 square feet.

Traffic count for two days

Technicians from the Department of Transport in a van came to town Thursday of last week to install counters for another traffic count at the contentious, Mill-Main "Calamity Corners". The counters extended from the curb half way across the right-hand side of the road at each of the four approaches to the corner. However, on Main St., south the counter was installed near the creek at the bottom of the hill, south of Brook Ave. Traffic turning onto Main St. from Church St. and Brook Ave. was not counted before or after passing through the intersection.

The department men sat impassively in their truck at the corner watching the usual parade of cars, their head-swivelling drivers indecisive about their safety. After the Friday home-going rush the counters were taken up again and the government men departed for parts unknown without a count of all the cars proceeding through the intersection.

Referring to a letter to the Editor which appeared in the paper last week, School Board trustees indicated the transportation cost for 1965 was \$43,000 rather than the \$58,000 quoted in the letter. They also said the inference that the Campbellville school would be closed, was also wrong.

"As far as an atomic attack goes," trustee Arthur Gibson said, "I think we'd get it from anywhere." The letter, written by Gordon Agnew, opposed the idea of adding to the Brookville school and suggested another school in Campbellville as an alternative.

Dr. Cliff Yeung, a school trustee, said if the plan was adopted the mill rate would go up four mills in the next two years. He said incentive grants for the development of "this type of program" would help hold down the size of the tax increase.

Married 50 years

Mr. and Mrs. David Radcliffe celebrated the occasion quietly at their home with relatives and friends. The couple have lived here for the past seven years.

Wardens' dinner

Sparks flew, tempers flared and insults were hurled freely about on Wednesday evening of last week, when Halton County Council hosted municipal councillors from the seven Halton municipalities to a "goodwill dinner."

The purpose of the meeting — to strengthen the bonds of friendship and co-operation among the municipalities — was almost lost when a question-and-answer period turned into a verbal free-for-all.

Despite warnings from the chairman, Warden H. H. Hinton of Acton that the meeting

should be kept on a high plane and questions limited to good taste, the visiting councillors grabbed the opportunity to air petty beefs and kept the torches of inter-municipal rivalry burning strongly.

Near the end, one councillor urged the meeting be ended quickly, for he claimed the whole point of the meeting had been lost and "an Irish wake couldn't be funnier than this."

It was the county's second annual dinner to which the municipal representatives are invited to come and see the county system in operation, chat informally

with members of other councils and meet the county's department heads.

Supper was a smorgasbord banquet served by the Scotch Block W.I. and refreshments were laid on by Frank Cowan insurance company which handles the county insurance business. Over 100 enjoyed the evening and the "ship of county government" sailed smoothly until the speeches began.

Warden Hinton sat at the head table, flanked by mayors or reeves of the seven municipalities. Each community leader was introduced and was asked to speak for three minutes on a topic of local concern.

Burlington Reeve Gordon Gallagher kicked off the talks by praising the county system, noting it was like a regional government where an overall body provides services such as children's aid, home for the aged, registration of land titles, emergency measures, assessment and planning for the local municipalities.

Mayer Syd Childs of Milton noted the close co-operation between Milton and Halton County because the county seat is at Milton. He noted everyone was anxiously awaiting the Plunkett commission report on local government and hoped Milton and the County would continue their good relations.

Acton Mayor Les Duby touched off the first spark of controversy in a three-part speech. He urged first of all, that the county sit down with local municipalities before establishing the equalized assessment for the year, rather than have the town's reeve and deputy-reeve come back to the local council and announce what the county had decided would be a fair division.

Secondly, he scored the county's unwillingness to join CORDA — the Central Ontario Regional Development Association — for a "meagre" \$1,000 fee. He said this was one area where all the municipalities in Halton could work together for the good of all, and urged everyone to drop the "north-south animosity."

His third point concerned welfare, and he blamed deserting husbands for 75 per cent of the county's welfare costs. He urged a petition to the provincial government for more welfare

(Continued on Page Two)

Parks, recreation amalgamation to be debated at joint meeting

Administration difficulties, the problem of outstanding accounts, a projected meeting with parks board to discuss amalgamation and an effort to initiate a start on construction of tennis courts were all discussed at a short meeting of the recreation committee Monday night.

Secretary Art Cooper reported parks board felt there wasn't anything they could do this year about a motion originating at the last recreation committee meeting regarding construction of new tennis courts at the Mill St. E. park. "They haven't budgeted for it," said the secretary, "and they also feel there isn't enough land in that location."

Committee member Chas. Leatherland asked, "are they not aware council has secured more land from T. Seynuck for the park?"

Chairman Len Lovell felt the committee had gone as far as it could go towards initiating action on a new location for the courts. Mr. Leatherland indicated there was still much interest in tennis and every effort should be made to see facilities were available.

The original motion passed at the last committee meeting called for contracts with the high school board and parks board regarding construction of tennis courts on the park land adjacent to the school on Mill St. E. The committee has received no reply from the high school board.

The secretary further reported parks board wished it brought to the attention of the recreation committee that since parking facilities were used of ten by the committee than by them, the cost of maintenance should be shared.

Chairman Len Lovell acknowledged events staged by the committee often exceeded parking for other purposes but felt if the recreation committee

shares costs with them in summer then it would be reasonable to assume parks board would be willing to "share it with us" in the winter for snow plowing, etc.

Further discussion on the role both boards play in the community found members supporting an amalgamation of the two to avoid overlapping and conflicts like the parking situation.

Member Hugh Patterson asked Mr. Leatherland if he was supposed to have received instructions from council to inform the committee to begin preparations to amalgamate with parks board. Mr. Leatherland replied in the negative, stating some members of council were against an amalgamation.

The committee instructed the secretary to contact parks board with a view to setting up a meeting next Monday if possible to study the "pros and cons" of amalgamating the two bodies.

Elmer Smith, and later G. W. McKenzie of the YMCA board, attended the meeting and agreed a split of one-third of the receipts from the Slim and Trim classes conducted by the recreation director would be adequate to reimburse the Y board for use of their facilities.

"We're happy you can use the facilities when we're not using them," said Mr. Smith. He expressed the wish more mutual programs might develop and can be talked over.

An outstanding account for ice time used by the Acton Minor Hockey Association was left for member Harold Townsley and Trim classes conducted by the recreation director would be adequate to reimburse the Y board for use of their facilities.

Building committee chairman Harold Townsley told of plans to finish the floor in the new

storage area and reported the new mops used on the floors are doing a good job.

Recreation director Howard Pearce's report was dispensed with until the next meeting since he was away at a camp for playground leaders.

The chairman reported he had been in touch with the curling club and the committee could expect a substantial donation towards the cost of the new trophy case to be built in the community centre. Donations were also promised from the intermediate hockey club and other interested organizations.

The secretary was authorized to pay financial statement No. 5 amounting to \$3,537.73.

Chairman Len Lovell presided at the hour and a half meeting with members Hugh Patterson, Owen Coutrup, Chas. Perry, Harold Townsley, Chas. Leatherland and secretary Art Cooper also in attendance.

Mattress ablaze firefighters called

A mattress fire at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Dunne, Mill Street, at 4.30 a.m. Friday morning of last week roused firefighters from a sound sleep.

When firefighters arrived at the hall to learn the location of the fire some hopped on the truck to ride while others ran from the hall to the main business section.

Dense smoke was billowing from the apartment building above Family Outfitters store and the burning mattress was tossed out a window into the alleyway at the rear of the building. It was a complete ruin as well as some of the bedding. Mr. Dunne received slight burns when he picked up the mattress to heave it out the window.

Halton County "P.R. dinner" becomes verbal free-for-all

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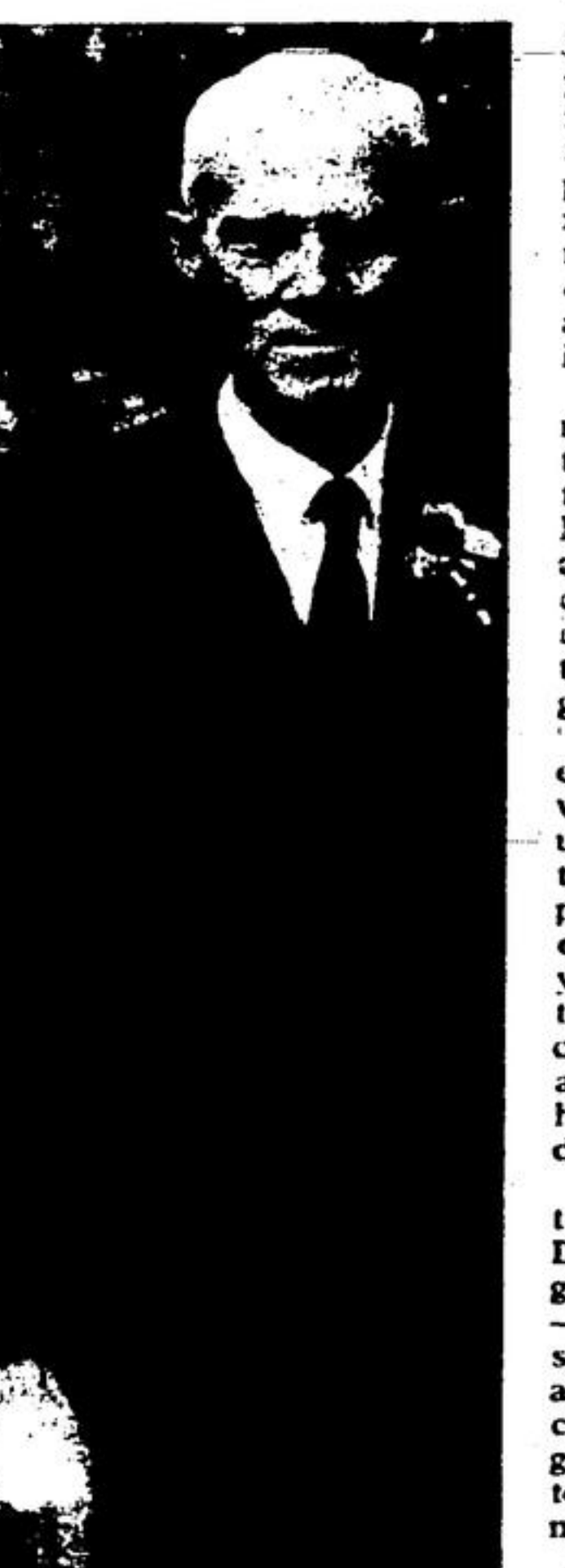
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